

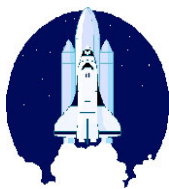


countdown

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Crew named for final shuttle crew rotation flight to ISS



◆ Shuttle Update:

NASA announced it has assigned the crew for space shuttle Discovery's STS-129 mission, targeted to launch in

October 2009. The flight will deliver two experiment racks to the International Space Station.

Marine Col. Charlie Hobaugh will command the mission. Navy Capt. Barry Wilmore will serve as the pilot. Mission Specialists are Robert Satcher, Navy Capt. Michael Foreman, Marine Lt. Col. Randy Bresnik and Leland Melvin. Wilmore, Satcher and Bresnik will be making their first trips to space. The mission will return Canadian Space Agency astronaut and station crew member Robert Thirsk to Earth.

This is slated to be the final space shuttle crew rotation flight to or from the space station. Discovery will deliver parts to the space station, including two spare gyroscopes. The mission will feature four spacewalks.

◆ **NASA News:** Monday, NASA announced Center Director Bill Parsons will be leaving Kennedy for the private sector. He will be replaced by former astronaut Robert Cabana, currently director of NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center in Mississippi.

As an astronaut, Cabana flew four space shuttle missions, serving as the

Did you know that we could save 500,000 trees a week if everyone recycled their Sunday newspapers?

Veteran astronaut named to succeed Parsons

pilot of Discovery missions STS-41 in October 1990 and STS-53 in December 1992, commander of Columbia on STS-65 in July 1994, and commander of Endeavour on STS-88 – the first International Space Station assembly mission – in December 1998.

Before being named the director at Stennis in October 2007, Cabana served as deputy director of Johnson. In addition, Cabana has worked as chief of NASA's Astronaut Office; manager of international operations of the International Space Station Program; director of NASA's Human Space Flight Program in Russia; deputy director of the International Space Station Program; and director of Flight Crew Operations.

■ **Visitors Records Center Operational on NASA Parkway** — The Visitors Records Center is fully operational at the Badging Office on S.R. 405 between Gate 3 and the Visitor Complex. The primary phone number 867-7763 is now being answered at the new facility. All badging requests (TAAs/PAA's/picture badge requests and requests for temporary passes) should be forwarded to that location. The fax number 867-4854 is operational. Effective Monday, all requests for badging services will be facilitated at the new Badging Office.

The front counter operation at KSC Headquarters will be operational until 2 p.m. on Friday for limited services only. KSC Headquarters will continue to issue the PIV II NASA Badges received from room 1476. Enrollment also will continue at that location. Remember, where you enroll is where your badge will be issued.

■ **NASA Science** — Astronomers who count sunspots have announced that 2008 has become the "blankest year" of the Space Age. Sunspot counts are at a 50-year low, signifying a deep minimum in the 11-year cycle of solar activity. You can read the full story at:

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/30sep_blankyear.htm.

■ **Education Opportunity** — Webster University offers master's degrees in management and leadership — the perfect answer for professionals who want to upgrade their credentials. Classes meet one night a week at the Merritt Island Campus starting the week of Oct. 20. Degrees can be completed in as little as 15 months. No GRE is required. For more information, contact Carla at 449-4500 or spacecoast@webster.edu.

For further information about Webster University, visit the Web site at: www.webster.edu/spacecoast.

■ **Learn More About ODIN** — Outsourcing Desktop Initiative for NASA, known as ODIN, would like to share frequently asked questions with you. For more information, please visit the ODIN Web site at:

<https://www.odin.lmit.com/ksc/kscfaqs.html>.

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